CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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CLASSIFICATION OF OPENCAST MINING SYSTEMS IN THE USSR

The following table gives the classification of opencast mining systems suggested by mining engineer P. V. Melonanov in an article in Gornyy Zhurnal.

Type	Designation of System	Basic Equipment Used in Stripping Operations
A	Horizontal slicing with removal of overburden to inside dumps by excavators.	Large single-bucket excavators. Tower excavators.
B_1	Horizontal slicing with removal of overburden to inside dumps by swing chutes.	Single-bucket and multibucket excavators. Transporter bridges and swing chutes (boom loaders).
B_2	Horizontal slicing with removal of overburden to dumps by wheel or caterpillar transporters.	Excavators, and various types of wheel and caterpillar transporters.
C_1	Horizontal slicing with removal of overburden to dumps partly by excavators and partly by wheel or caterpillar transporters.	Large single-bucket excavators on the lower benches and, if necessary, on the inside dumps. Various types of excavators on the upper benches. Wheel or caterpillar transporters of various types for the removal of overburden to the dumps from the upper benches.
C_2	Horizontal slicing with removal of overburden to dumps by swing chutes and partly by wheel or caterpillar transporters.	Single-bucket or multibucket excavators. Transporter bridges and swing chutes for the removal of overburden to inside dumps from lower benches. Various types of wheel or caterpillar transporters for removal of overburden to dumps from upper benches.

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Type	Designation of System	Basic Equipment Used in Stripping Operations
D	Horizontal slicing with complete or partial use of hydraulic excavating.	Hydraulic excavators, hydraulic dredges, pumps, excavators, wheel scrapers, and various types of wheel or caterpillar transporters for removal of overburden to dumps.
E	Horizontal slicing with use of dredges.	Single-bucket and multibucket dredges.

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